



County of San Diego

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Services Public Health Laboratory
Public Health Nursing
Tuberculosis Control & Refugee
Health
Vital Records

Medical Director's Update for Base Station Physicians' Committee February, 2014

The influenza season appears to be receding. For several weeks now the number of cases has decreased. The number of deaths is 35, expected for this point. Field and emergency departments have been busy. Please see the statistics below. Thanks for all your hard work.

“Droplet” precautions are appropriate PPE for possible influenza exposure. Influenza like illness is defined by fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}$ F) and cough and/or sore throat (in the absence of a known cause other than influenza.) This means a surgical mask and gloves, and if there is concern about possible splashes, etc then eye protection and gown. Procedures that may aerosolize secretions require a higher level mask, such as an N-95. These procedures include CPR, BVM ventilation, suctioning, endotracheal or other airways.

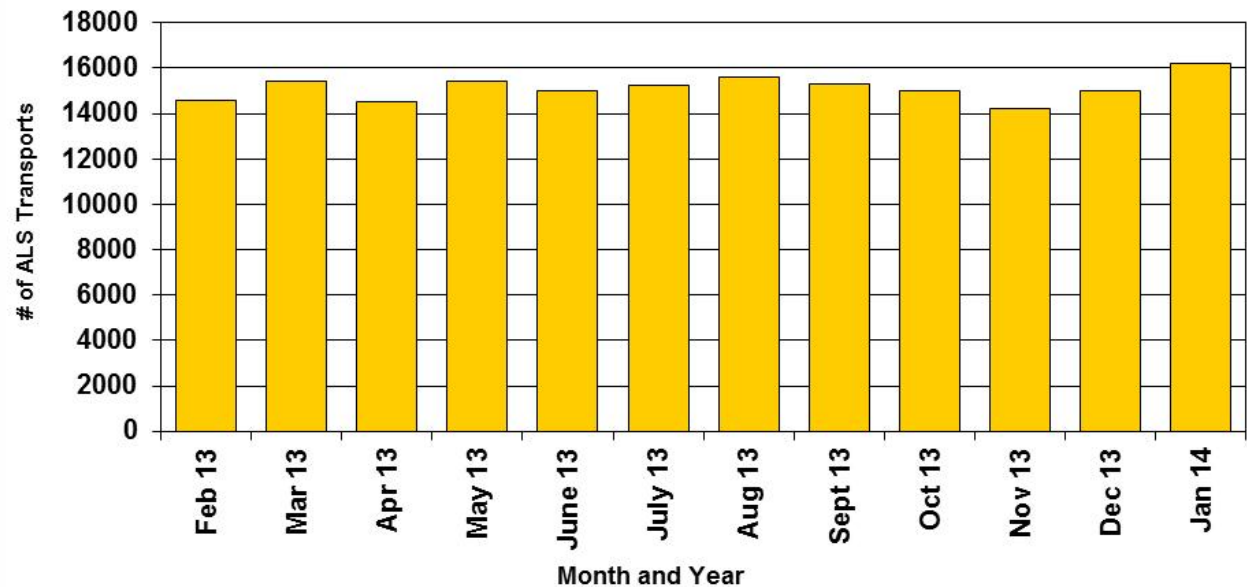
Pertussis cases are increasing. EMS providers and hospital personnel should receive Tdap vaccine to prevent illness in themselves and their patients.

Drug shortages continue, the most common right now being normal saline. The reason is unclear, although some people believe it is due to high use during the flu season. EMS has authorized the use of 500 mL bags, in place of 1000 mL both for availability and to conserve fluid. Saline locks to avoid unneeded use of fluid are also authorized. If the shortage continues, use of other fluids may be needed.

The burn surge plan continues development. This would allow the broad distribution of patients in the system in response to a large burn emergency exceeding the capacity of the burn center. Patients with large cutaneous burns would go to the burn center. As the burn center nears capacity patients with smaller burns and/or inhalation injury who need resuscitation and surgical procedures, would go to one of the trauma centers, with children going to Rady's. Finally, smaller burns would go to the emergency departments, depending on their capacity and resources.

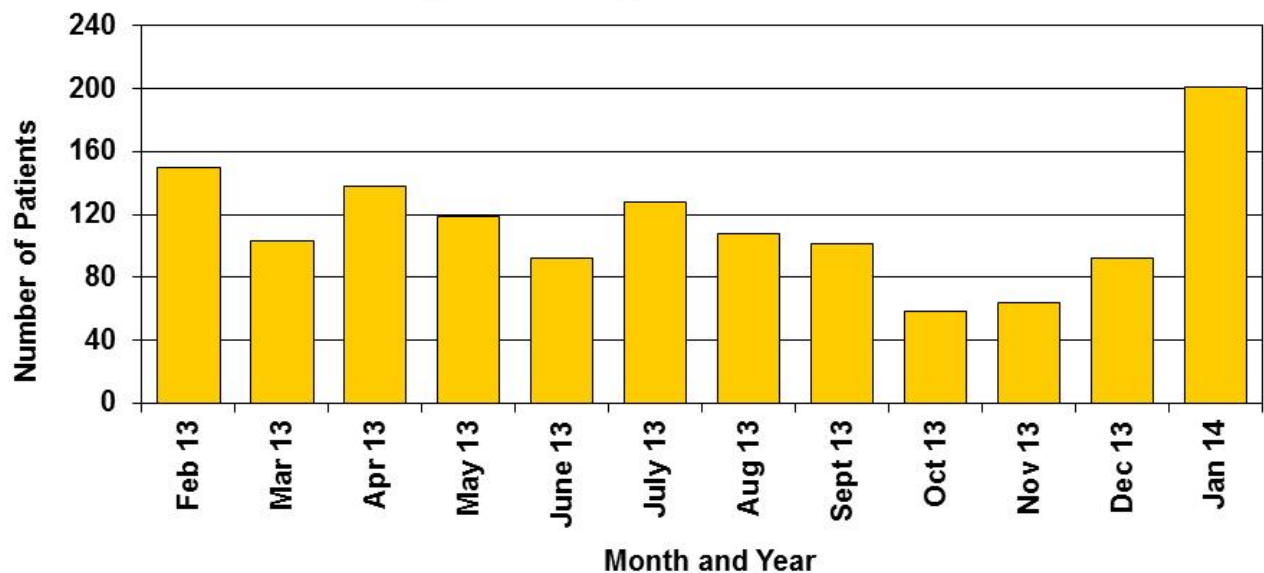
The Medical Society Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force meeting is February 28. There will be an opportunity to sign up for CURES at the meeting. Sign up will be mandatory next year.

**Number of ALS Transports,
County of San Diego, Feb 2013 - Jan 2014**

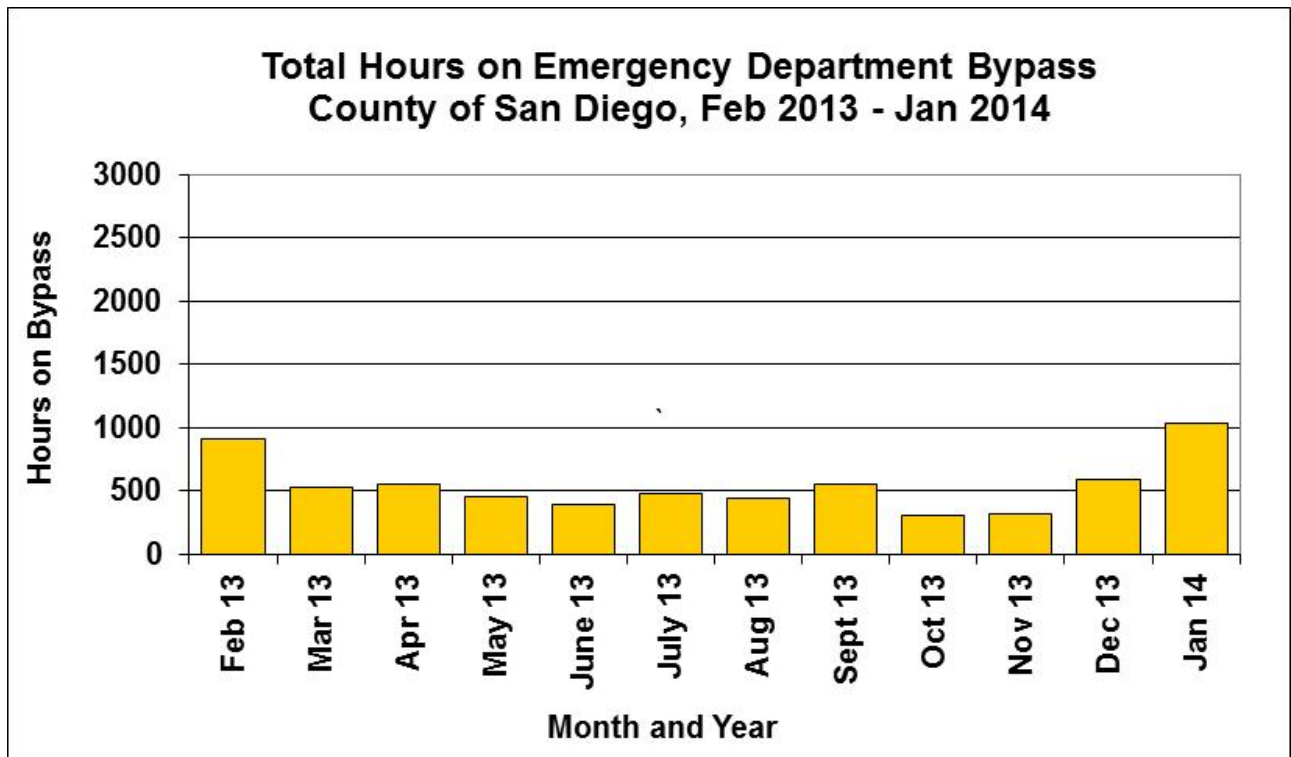


Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Feb 2013 –Jan 2014 Note: Numbers based on Run Outcomes of Transport by Unit and Transport by Other

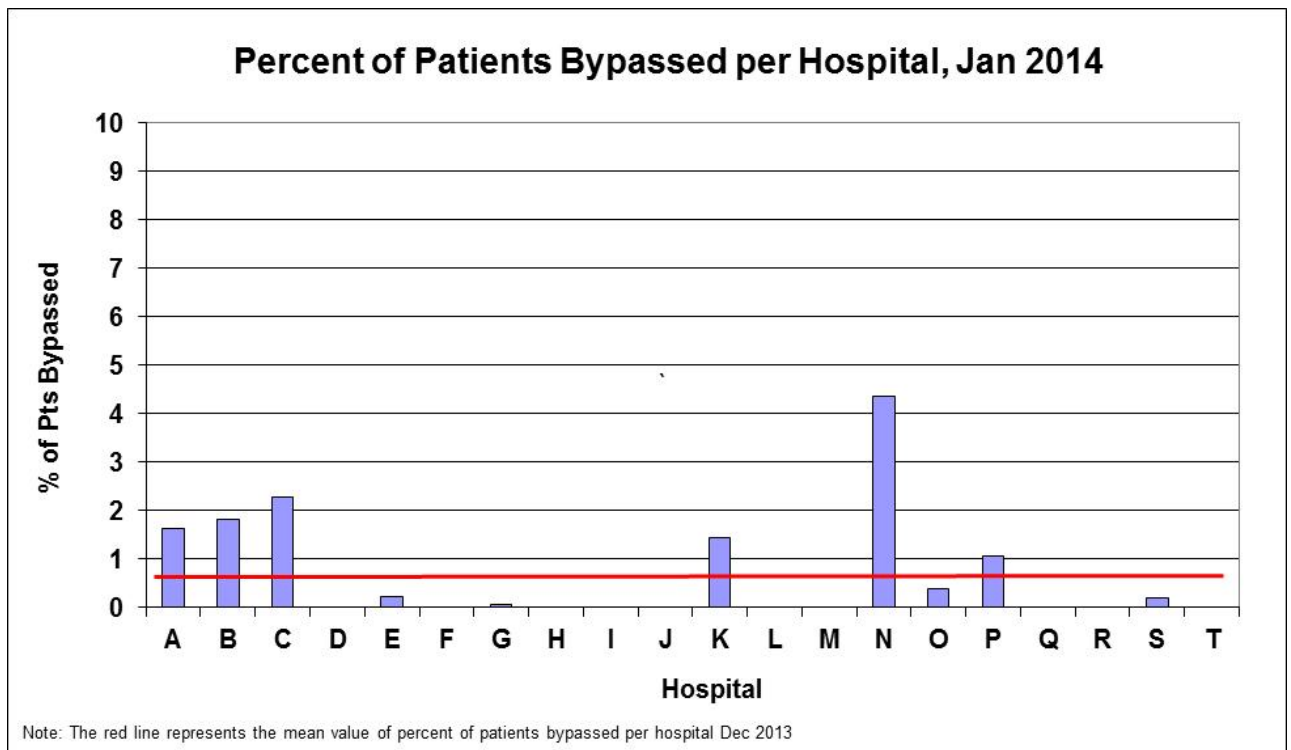
**Number of Patients who
Bypassed the Requested Hospital,
County of San Diego, Feb 2013 - Jan 2014**



Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Feb 2013 –Jan 2014 Note: Numbers based on Run Outcomes of Transport by Unit and Transport by Other

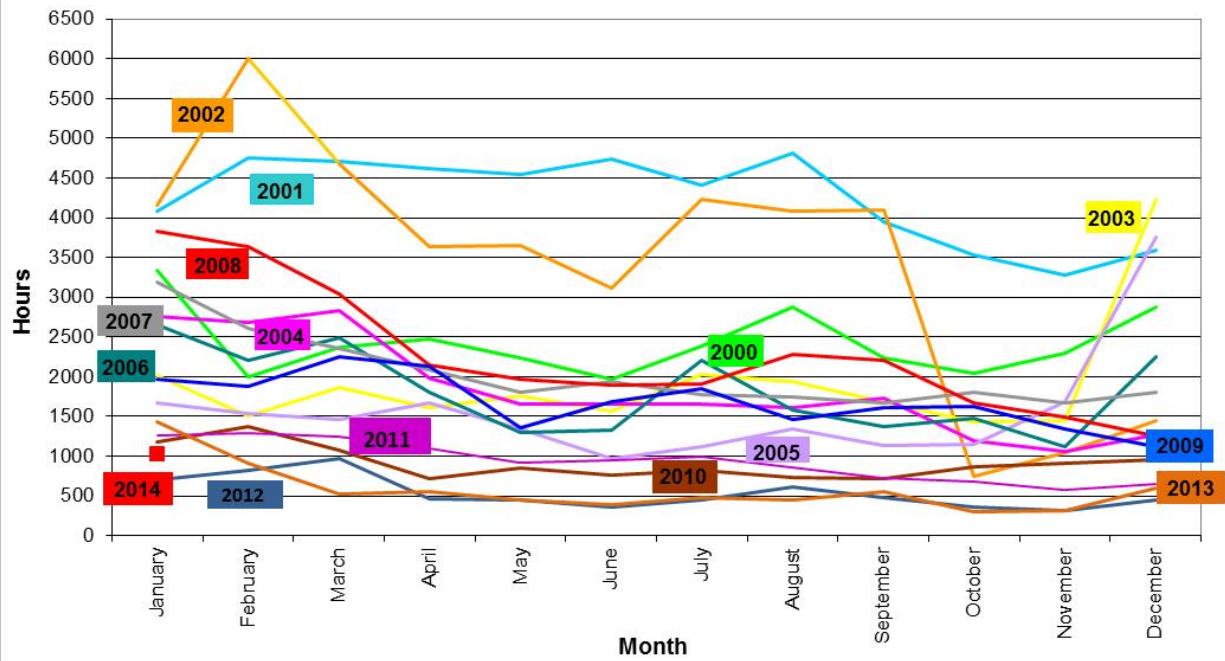


Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Feb 2013 –Jan 2014



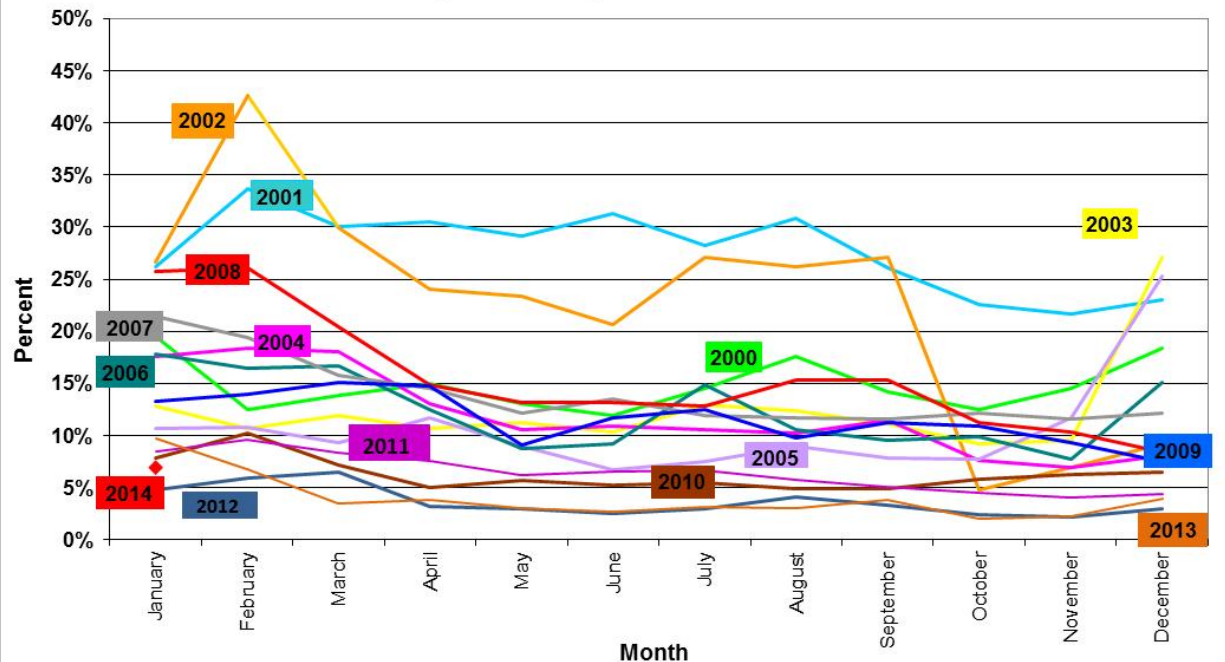
Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Jan 2014
 Note: Numbers based on Run Outcomes of Transport by Unit and Transport by Other

Total Hours on ED Saturation by Month and Year, San Diego County, Jan 2000 - Jan 2014

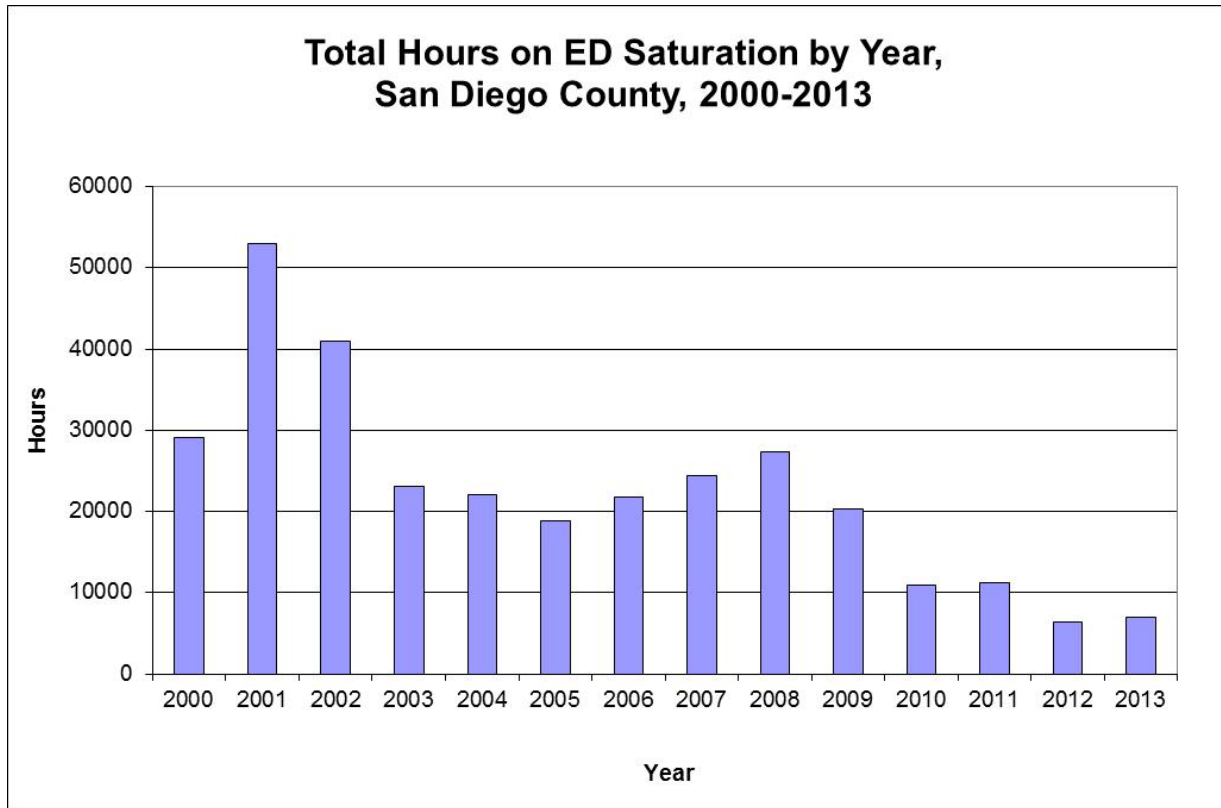


Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Jan 2000 –Jan 2014

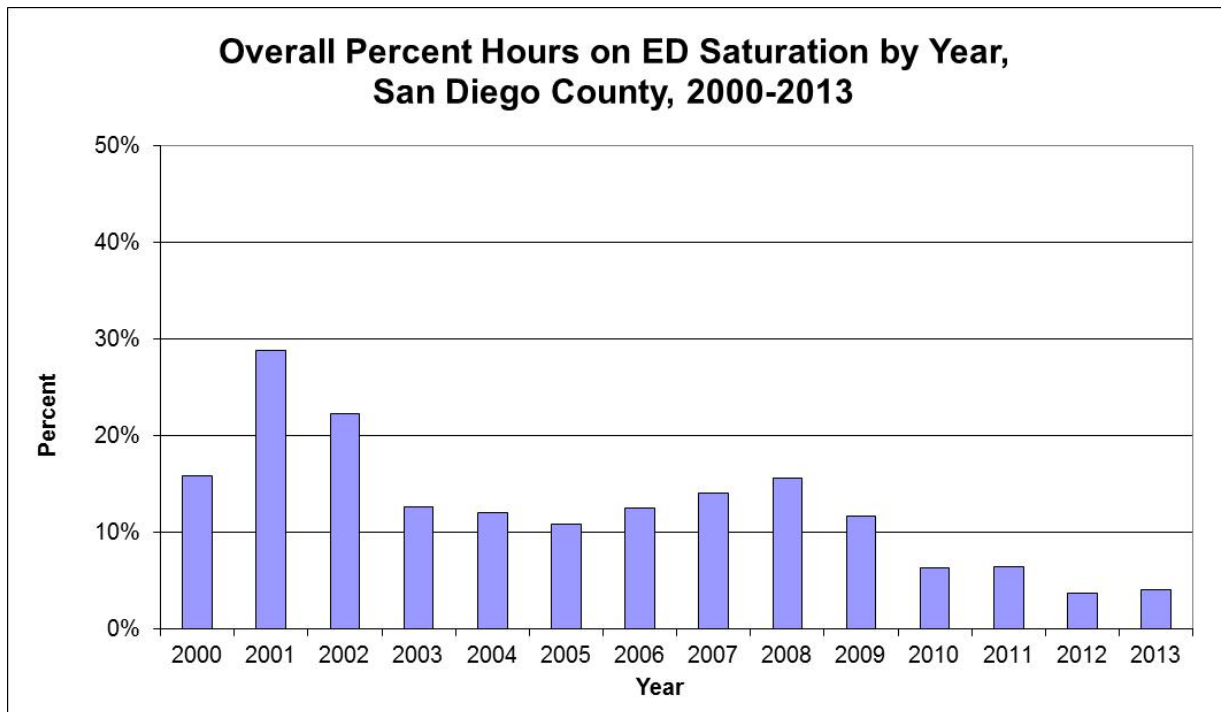
Overall Percent Hours on ED Sat Per Month and Year San Diego County, Jan 2000 - Jan 2014



Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Jan 2000 –Jan 2014



Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, 2000 – 2013



Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, 2000 – 2013